

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00282 212117Z

67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /043 W
----- 003064

P R 211606Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8458

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTOWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN VC

SUBJ: BANK INQUIRY

REF STATE 031838

1. LOCAL BANKING CONTACTS REPORT THAT UNITED BANK AND TRUST COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA IS NOT REPEAT NOT ON 1972 LIST OF BANKS INCORPORATED IN ST. VINCENT. EMBASSY HAS WRITTEN TO AUTHORITIES, BANKS AND OTHER CONTACTS IN ST. VINCENT FOR MORE PRECISE AND MORE RECENT INFORMATION.

2. WE DO KNOW THAT BANKING IN ST. VINCENT IS NOT TIGHTLY REGULATED AND THAT IT IS RELATIVELY SIMPLE TO INCORPORATE AN INSTITUTION THERE. IN FACT, ONE WELL KNOWN CANADIAN WHEELER-DEALER NAMED GRAHAM SYDNEY HERON HAS INCORPORATED A WHOLE STRING OF BANKS IN ST. VINCENT AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT BANK UNDER REFERENCE COULD BE RECENT ADDITION TO THESE. HERON HAS BEEN KNOWN IN CANADA AND ELSEWHERE FOR HIS ASSOCIATION WITH BURLINGTON BANK, A CANADIAN INSTITUTION OF EQUIVOCAL REPUTATION WHICH HAS UNSUCCESSFULLY ATTEMPTED TO OPERATE IN BARBADOS, AND ELSEWHERE IN CARIBBEAN.

3. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLY DELICATE NATURE OF INFORMATION INVOLVED,
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EMBASSY CONSIDERED IT PRUDENT TO WRITE RATHER THAN CALL OUR

CONTACTS. WILL REPORT FURTHER AS SOON AS INFORMATION RECEIVED.
BRITTON

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EFIN, BBAK, VC, BB, UNITED BANK & TRUST COMPANY, (HERON, GRAHAM SYDNEY)
To: STATE
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